

**REMARKS**

Claim 8 is cancelled herein. New Claim 40 is added. Claims 1, 7, 12, 15, 18, 21, 23, 31, 33, 34, and 37 have been amended. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-26 and 28-40 are pending and under consideration.

The §§102 and 103 rejections are now discussed. Using independent claim 1 as an example, this claim recites the respective angles formed by respective lengths of the reflective slopes with respect to the lengthwise direction gradually become larger when moving further from a side of the guide onto which the light is incident. Present FIG. 8 illustrates this feature, as an example.

The Examiner relies upon the angle of the sides of the depressions 13 as corresponding to the claimed angles with respect to the lengthwise direction. However, these angles are not lengths of the reflective slopes, as claimed.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Tsutsumi does not overcome these deficiencies in Yokoyama, and is not relied on by the Examiner to do so.

New claim 40 is are patentable over the cited references at least for similar reasons as discussed with respect to independent claim 1.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

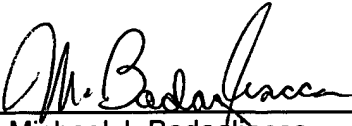
Serial No. 10/629,851

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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